



CHESSMOVES

MARCH 1994

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Welcome to the first CHESS newsletter of 1994. It's an important year for the school and we hope to make it a significant one for Camberwell High School Ex-Students' Society as well. Already, as you read this, we will have had our first function for the year.....a Sausage Sizzle for the 1993 school leavers. It's an opportunity for them to meet up again, and forge new links as they set out into the world beyond school. We hope that one of those links will be with CHESS itself, as a means of keeping contact with the people with whom they shared their school years. In that way, the organisation can be infused with new blood each year, even if only a few keep up the contact at this stage, and remain relevant to the current needs of the institution to which we all want to contribute.

With that thought in mind, we are taking the time (and the expense) of mailing out this edition of CHESSMOVES and the attachments to all the 4,000 plus names now available in the school records (and more on that subject later), to reach the widest possible circulation and, hopefully, stimulate more ex-students to make the modest contribution which will enable us to keep them informed about what is happening at the school, and how CHESS is helping. As you will see from the Calendar of School Activities provided by Deputy Principal and CHESS committee member, Geoff Sinclair, there's plenty going on, and the new education environment in Victoria means the school must be more self-sustaining than ever before.

That's where you can come in. The demands on your time will not be great, but they can be important. Read on, as we try to show you how.

FORTHCOMING NEWS:

Monday April 18th: CHESS Annual General Meeting. At Sofia's Restaurant, 857 Burke Road, Camberwell, at 6.30 for 7pm. The time to review CHESS's structure and activities and elect the committee and office bearers. Come along and add your ideas. The formal proceedings will be brisk and businesslike, and will be followed for those who wish it - by a good value meal of herb or garlic bread, pasta, pizza, coffee and sweets for just \$15 per head.

Ten Year Reunion: Date to be advised. We are forming a small and energetic committee of people who left the school in 1984 to organise a ten-year reunion dinner. If you can help in any way, please contact one of the CHESS officers, or leave a message with the school.

Vocational Breakfast: Once again, in July, we'll be running our successful Vocational Breakfast for Year 12 students, offering them whatever help we can in weighing up future career paths and making their initial approaches. It's been much appreciated in past years, and we look forward to making this year's bigger and better than ever. Contact President Bernard Corser for details.

THE MAIL OUT:

This mail-out to the 4000 plus names on the school's address list is a major annual CHESS activity, enabling each addressee - even if not a member of CHESS - to receive some information about their old school. It was decided in 1994 to make the mail-out early in the year, so as to include a copy of the school calendar and request information for the school's new Scholas database.

The Scholas software package, now being installed, includes all aspects of staff and student administration, a business directory, a report writing facility, and a development directory which is of particular interest to CHESS. This will enable us to keep records of ex-students in a single, comprehensive format and simplify what has been a rather piecemeal operation thus far. The new proforma included with this newsletter is a consequence of the software...it will help us to key in the information quickly.

Thank you for taking the trouble to complete the form. It will assist us in keeping contact with you, and in developing the database of former students.

One of the major problems in organising the school's Jubilee celebrations in 1991 was making contact with people who would have liked to be involved in a major event connected with the school, but had lost touch. We want to build now on the work that was done three years ago. Remember 2001, the school's 60th anniversary, is only seven years away!

A REMINDER:

For those who haven't already paid their 1994 CHESS subscription, or those who wish to join for the first time, payment to the Treasurer Bob Knowles, would now be welcomed. It's still a remarkably cheap, inflation-proofed \$10 a year!

And a thought for people now living outside Victoria; we have had enquiries from interstate CHESS members about setting up local chapters to keep in touch and perhaps organise their own functions. If you're interested in that, contact CHESS office bearers and they'll put you in touch with like-minded people.

AT LAST:

Amid all the change that Victoria's education system is going through, there's at least one piece of good news for CHS. Some \$560,000 is being made available for a 'major maintenance upgrade'. Most of it will go on replacing the roof on the main school block, painting inside and out, and some lighting improvements, but it's certainly a step in the right direction and long overdue.